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Letters and communications intended for the establishment will not be received unless the pustage is varid.

## PROSPECTUS.

THE MADISONIAN will be devoted to the support of the principles and doctrines of the democratic party, as delineated by Mr. Madison, and will aim to consummate that political reform in the theory and practice of the national government, which has been repeatedly indicated by the general sufferage, as assential to the peace and prosperity of the country, and to the perfection and perpetuity of its free institutions. At this time a singular state of affairs is presented. The commercial interests of the country are overwhelmed with embarrassment; its monetary concerns are unusually disordered; terests of the country are overwhelmed with embarrass-ment; its monetary concerns are unusually disordered; every ramification of society is invaded by distress, and the social edifice seems threatened with disorganization; every ear is filled with predictions of evil and the murevery ear is filled with predictions of evil and the mur-murings of despondency; the general government is boldly assailed by a large and respectable portion of the people, as the direct cause of their difficulties; open resistance to the laws is publicly encouraged, and a spirit of insubordination is fostered, as a necessary defence to the pretended usurpations of the party in power; some, from whom better things were hoped, are making the "confusion worse confounded," by a head-long pursuit of extreme notions and indefinite phantoms, totally incompatible with a wholesome state of the country. In the midst of all these difficulties and em-barrassments, it is feared that many of the less firm of country. In the midst of all these difficulties and embarrassments, it is feared that many of the less firm of the friends of the administration and supporters of democratic principles are wavering in their confidence, and beginning, without just cause, to view with distrust those men to whom they have been long attached, and whose elevation they have laboured to promote from honest and patriotic motives. Exulting in the anticipation of dismay and confusion amongst the supporters of the administration as the consequence of these things, tion of dismay and confusion amongst the supporters of the administration as the consequence of these things, the opposition are consoling themselves with the idea that Mr. Van Buren's friends, as a national party, are verging to dissolution; and they allow no opportunity to pass unimproved to give celat to their own doctrines. They are, indeed, maturing plans for their own future government of the country, with seeming confidence of certain success.

This confidence is increased by the fact, that visionary theories, and an unwise adherence to the plan for an exclusive metallic currency have unfortunately carried some beyond the actual and true policy of the government; and, by impairing public confidence in the credit system, which ought to be preserved and regulated, but not destroyed, have tended to increase the difficulties not destroyed, have tended to increase the discusses under which the country is now labouring. All these seem to indicate the necessity of a new organ at the seat of government, to be established upon sound prin-ciples, and to represent faithfully, and not to dictate, the real policy of the administration, and the true sentiments, measures, and interests, of the great body of its sup-porters. The necessity also appears of the adoption of porters. The necessity also appears of the adoption of more conservative principles than the conduct of those seems to indicate who seek to remedy abuses by destroying the institutions with which they are found con-nected. Indeed some measure of contribution is deemed essential to the enhancement of our own self-respect at home, and to the promotion of the honor and credit of the nation abroad.

To meet these indications this undertaking has been To meet these indications this undertaking has been instituted, and it is hoped that it will produce the effect of inspiring the timid with courage, the desponding with hope, and the whole country with confidence in the administration of its government. In this view, this journal will not seek to lead, or to follow any faction, or to advocate the views of any particular detachment of men. It will aspire to accord a just measure of superior of the covernment. men. It will aspire to accord a just measure of sup-port to each of the co-ordinate branches of the govern-ment, in the lawful exercise of their constitutional prerogatives. It will address itself to the understandings of men, rather than appeal to any unworthy prejudices or evil passions. It will rely invariably upon the prin-ciple, that the strength and security of American justi-tutions depend upon the intelligence and virtue of the records.

THE MADISONIAN will not, in any event, be made the instrument of arraying the north and the south, the east and the west, in hostile attitudes towards each other, upon any subject of either general or local interest. It will reflect only that spirit and those principles of mutual concession, compromise, and reciprocal good-will, which subsequent adoption, by the several States, of the con-stitution of the United States. Moreover, in the same hallowed spirit that has, at all periods since the adoption natiowed spirit that has, at an periods since the adoption of that sacred instrument, characterized ITS BEFENCE BY THE PEOPLE, our press will hasten to its support at every emergency that shall arise, from whatever quarter, and under whatever guise of philanthropy, policy, or principle, the antagonist power may appear.

If, in this responsible undertaking, it shall be our good fortune to succeed to any degree in promoting the harmony and prosperity of the country, or in conciliatin jealousies, and allaying the asperitics of party warfare jealousies, and allaying the asperities of party warfare, by demeaning ourself amicably towards all; by indulging personal animosities towards none; by conducting ourself in the belief that it is perfectly practicable to differ with others in matters of principle and of expediency, without a mixture of personal unkindness or loss of reciprocal respect; and by "asking nothing that is not clearly right, and submitting to nothing that is wrong," then, and not otherwise, will the full measure of its intention be accomplished, and our primary role for its guidance be sufficiently observed and satisfied.

This enterprize has not been undertaken without the approbation, advisement, and pledged support of many of the leading and soundest minds in the ranks of the democractic republican party, in the extreme north and in the extreme south, in the east and in the west. An association of both political experience and talent of the association of soft pointerial experience and tarient of the highest order will render it competent to carry forward the principles by which it will be guided, and make it useful as a political organ, and interesting as a journal of news. Arrangements also have been made to fix the establishment upon a substantial and permanent basis. The subscriber, therefore, relies upon the public for so much of their confidence and encouragement only as the fidelity of his press to their great national interests shall prove itself entitled to receive.

THOMAS ALLEN.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C. July, 1837.

THE MADISONIAN.

FOR THE COUNTRY.
We commenced on Saturday last the publication o a weekly edition of the Madisonian, and shall issue the second number to-day. This edition will comprise condensed report of the daily proceedings of both Houses of Cougress, with all the editorial matter and much other political, statistical, financial, and miscellaneous reading comprised in the edition published every other day-filling the four sides of the sheet with reading matter, of an interesting and valuable character. This will prove a valuable acquisition, we flatter our-self, to all who would supply themselves with general information from the Capitol of the United States, in a cheap and convenient form, accessible to all. The present political period is an interesting and important one, and cannot fail to excite the attention of every one who seeks to be informed upon matters of general con-

The price for the Madisonian, weekly, one year, is \$3, payable invariably in advance. December 16, 1837.

EMBASSY TO THE EASTERN COURTS OF COCHIN-CHINA, SIAM, AND MUSCAT-By E ROBERTS, in the U. S. sloop of war Peacock, during the years 1832-'33 and '34, is just published and his day received. For sale by

F. TAYLOR.

## THE MADISONIAN.

VOL. I.

WASHINGTON CITY, THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1838.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE.—From one to two thousand cords of the best Firewood for sale on reasonable terms, about from one to two miles from the Georgetown ferry, on the west side of the river. The wood either cut and corded, or standing, to suit purchasers Apply to J. W. Minor, Esq., at the Glone house in the vicinity, or to the subscriber in Washington city. jan 6tf

JOHN P. VAN NESS.

McCULLOCR'S COMMERCIAL DICTIONARY, latest edition, is just received, for sale by F. TAYLOR.

PICK WICK CLUB.-CONCLUDED THE Fifth volume of the Pick Wick Club is this day received, for sale by F. Taylor, or for circulation among the subscribers to the Waverly Circulating Library. jan. 3.

TOTIUS LATINITATIS LEXICON.—In two quarto volumes. Jacobi Fucciolati et Egidii Furcellini, edit-d by Bailey. London edition. A single copy of the above is just received by F. TAYLOR, for sale at 25 per tent below the usual price.

OHIO GAZETTEER,

WITH A NAP.

JUST PUBLISHED, and this day received for sale by F. TAYLOR.

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map, 1837,
Sherwood's New Gazatteer of Georgia, with a large map, 1837,
Peck's New Gazetteer of Illinois, 1837. Illinois in 1837, with map, Gordon's New Gazetteer of the State of N. York, 1 octavo volume, Martin's Gazetteer of Virginia and the District of

Martin's Gazetteer of Vagnus and the Darket of Columbia, I octave volume, Large map of Florids, taken from the documents in the land office at Tallahassee, Large maps of Mississippi and Alabama, just en, graved from the U. S. aurveys, in the Genera, Land Office, Washington city. Visit to Texas

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Large new maps of Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin &c., exhibiting the sections.

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THE CHRISTIAN STATESMAN, DEVOTED TO THE PROMOTION OF JUST VIEWS IN LITE-RATURE, HUMANITY, LIBERTY, POLITICS,

APRICAN COLONIZATION, AND

RELIGION.
THE REV. R. R. GURLEY, EDITOR THE REV. R. R. CURLEY, EDITOR.

The undersigned propose to establish in the City of Washington, under the editorial direction of the Rev. R. R. Gurley, a weekly paper, adapted to promote just views in MORALS, MANNERS, GOVERNMENT, AND RELIGION, and which, separate from the selfish conflicts of ambition, and the uncharitable controversies of sectarianism, shall contribute to unite all patriots and Christians in the according to the control of the control contribute to unite all patriots and Christians in the accomplishment of objects for the good of our country, the
benefit of humanity, and the glory of God. It will be our
endeavor, through the aid of our able and efficient editor,
to make this journal worthy of the patronage of the American People. The cause of APRICAN COLONIZATION
will be advocated as meriting the united, immediate, earnest, and liberal support of this nation. A summary of
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the session, a condensed report of the proceedings of both
Houses of Congress, and a brief view of Public Affairs.
In fine, no means will be neglected, of presenting to the
Public, through the columns of the Statesman, such information, facts and arguments, on the topics which most
occupy the minds of the wise and good in this country
and age, as may tend to advance the great cause of human
improvement and happiness, and render this journal in
every respect, a valuable Family Newspaper.

CONDITIONS.

CONDITIONS. THE CHRISTIAN STATESMAN will be published in the City of Washington, every Friday morning, on an imperial sheet, at \$3 per annum, payable in advance. Individuals ransmitting the amount for five or more papers shall receive them at \$2 50 each, per annum.

The first number will be issued in the first week in February 1828.

The first number will be issued in the first week in February, 1839.

ILT All communications relating to subscriptions, and the financial affairs of this journal, to be addressed to Etter and Bayne, publishers of the Christian Statesman, Washington City, D. C.: those relating to the editorial department, to the Rev. R. R. Gurley, editor, &c.

JOSEPH ETTER,

WILLIAM H. BAYNE.

CITY OF WASHINGTON, January 1, 1838.

L ADY BLESSINGTON'S MAGNIFICENT AN-I NUAL—GEMS OF BEAUTY, displayed in a series of 12 highly finished engravings of The Passions, from designs by E. T. Parris, Esc., executed under the superintendence of Mr. Charles Heath, with fanciful illustrations tendence of Mr. Charles Heath, with funciful illustrations in verse, by the Countess of Blessington. One splendid volume, imperial quarto, superbly bound in rich figured silk, and gilt Turkey morocco, in a variety of styles. The exquisite taste of the fair editress is conspicuous in the perfection of this beautiful annual; the illustrations, which include a wider range of subjects than those of last year, have never been equalled for high finish and delicacy of execution, and the general style of binding, and "getting up," is such as to give it a decided superiority over every other publication of the season.

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in the greatest variety and all at the lo in the greatest variety and all at the lowest prices, for sale by

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jan. 6.

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IN reply to the daily inquiries from Members of Con gress and others, it is deemed proper thus to state that complete sets NILES'S REGISTER, from its conthat complete sets NILES'S REGISTER, none us commencement in September, 1811, to the present period, can be obtained on application to Mr. PRILIF REIGAET, the agent of the late editor, in Baltimore, Maryland, or to the present editor in Washington city, on the following terms, for cash only, payable on delivery, vis:

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THE ADDRESS AND RESOLUTIONS OF the New York Democratic Republican Meeting for sale at this office in pamplet form. Price \$

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Also, SOPWITH'S ISOMETRICAL DRAWING as applicable to Geological and Mining Plans: by T. Sopwith, Mine Surveyor, I volume, engravings.

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Also, M'Cullock's Statistics of the British Empire, in 2 octave volumes, London, 1837, and a variety of the works of the same and of other classes of Literature and Science, (too many to enumerate,) recently imported at the most reasonable prices.

From the Gentleman's Magazine. BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH AND BERVICES OF COMMODORE CHARLES STEWART, Of the Navy of the United States.

(CONTINUED.) In December, 1812, his ship was equipped, and ready for sea, Captain Stewart embraced the occasion to give a splendid entertainment on board that vessel, to all the branches of government, and the citizens of the district; ere were upward of eight hundred ladies and gentlemen on board, where they passed without accident a most desirable day, and returned to their homes at night, delighted with the entertainment and hospitality of the captain. Soon after the citizens of the dis-trict gave a return ball to Captain Stewart, and the officers of the navy; it was at this ball room, about ten o'clock at night, that Midshipman Hamilton, the son of the Secretary of the Navy, and the aid of Captain Decatur, arrived with the flag of the Macedonian frigate, and the despatches of Captain Decatur, giving an account of his having captured her with the frigate United States. The dancing ceased, the flag was spread on the floor, the despatches read to the President, and the assembled ladies and gentlemen; to describe the scene which followed would require a more graphic pen than we hold. The reader will well be left to his own reflections and feelings, and glorious sympathies. Nor will he, we are certain, omit to recur to that gallant impulse which led Stewart and Bainbridge to Washington, to remonstrate against the inglorious policy that had been adopted of shutting up our ships, and the way to those brilliant scenes which lighted up the ocean and the lakes, with such uniading glory! We cannot resist the impulse to say something of that memorable occasion. The building, large and commodious as it was, as the flag lay in the midst of the brilliant assembly, literally trembled to its foundation with the plaudits. Ladies were seen laughing and weeping with joy; gentlemen embracing one another; mem-bers of Congress who were opposed to each other in the morning, on questions concerning the war, were found in each other's arms; the opposers of the war recovered for the moment, their lost patriotism, and in the arms of their democratic colleagues, their hearts beat in unison with each other over the glory acquired for their country, while the tears of gratitude streamed from their eyes, and fell on the prostrate flag of Britain, The venerable Macon, forgetting his stern consistency, exclaimed, "I never behold an officer of our navy, without the expansion of my heart making me feel as much affection for him as I could for a brother." In the general confusion, and the loss of all personal distinction, through the patriotic feelings of the moment, the President himself received the fraternal embrace of a federal senator. In this ball room, and on this occasion, the Secretary of the Navy, (Mr. Hamilton,) stated to those as-"IT IS TO CAPTAINS BAINBRIDGE AND STEWART YOU OWE YOUR NAVAL VICTO-We do no more than repeat the history of the times, when we say, that it was to the victories of our brave tars, on the ocean, over the English, that the first impulse and success

of the war are to be fairly ascribed. Unprepared, at its commencement, the nation divided on the question, and the fleets of the enemy hovering on our shores, doubt and darkness enveloped its declaration, and made the boldest hearts quail. Who that remembers that day, will ever forget the shouts of joy which rang through the land, as victory upon victory was announced, and flag after flag of the proud mistress of the deep, bowed to the star spangled banner of freedom! The national pulse beat high in every bosom: and every valley, and every hill top, sent forth its song of praise. Our cities, towns, and hamlets blazed with illumination and our armies marched joyfully to battle. The spell was broken? The foe had been confronted, on his own element, ship to ship, man to man, and gun to gun, and never had the stars and stripes of our country come down. The heart of the traitor shrivelled up within him, and the notes of despair died upon his lips. Our foe was struck aghast at his defeat, and trembled as he grappled with us, on sea and land. Mr. Madison's administration acquired strength, his friends confidence, the people hope, and the army and navy assurance of victory and fame. Such were the results of the noble council of Captains Stewarts and Bainbridge, and such the glorious fulfilment of their predictions ! One only of these chivalrous heroes lives to witness the deep and lasting gratitude of his country. Death has set his seal upon the other, and sanctified his memory in the affections of his countrymen. The fruits of their generous patriotism will long be seen in our elevated national character, in the glory of our arms, in the potency of our influence, and in the arrest of the ruffian hand of impressment, from touching the humblest head that seeks shelter beneath our striped bunting," once so contemned and despised. American decks are now inviolable as the American soil, and the proudest foot in the enemies' rank dare not tarnish them with rudeness or insult. The last American sailor has been long since dragged into foreign bondage, on the high seas.

Amongst the assembled fashion and beauty on the memorable occasion referred to, we observed Mrs. Madison, Miss Mayo, (now Mrs. Gen. Scott) and Misses Caton, Mrs. Jerome Bonaparte, and many others.

Captain Stewart shortly after proceeded to Hampton Roads, in the Constellation, preparatory to going on a cruise, but unfortunately, the morning after anchoring there, he discovered the enemy approaching his anchorage with a superior force of two seventy-fours, three frigates and several small vessels of war; he lost no time in preparing to retreat. It being calm with him, he commenced kedging his frigate toward Norfolk; the enemy vessels approached rapidly with a fine breeze, which they fortunately lost off Willoughby's Point, and they were, in consequence of the ebb tide compelled to anchor. The Constellation was kedged up on the flats off Sowell's day; Captain Stewart continued to press the enemy, by kedging up their seventy-fours, or tion, he was prepared for burning the Constelabout eight o'clock his ship floated, sail was afforded by a well regulated economy.

made on her with a fine breeze, boats with lights and pilots were sent to point out the shoals, and at 11 o'clock, P. M., the Constellation was safely moored between forts Norfolk and Nelson, where she afterward contributed to defend that place, and with her cannon and her crew, repulsed the enemy's attack on Crany Island, and defeated the expedition sent to capture Norfolk and its dependen-

NO. 59.

In the summer of 1813, Capt. Stewart was ordered to assume the command of the frigate Constitution, then undergoing repairs at Boston. In December following he proceeded on a cruise. After exhibiting that ship on the coasts of Georgia and South Carolina, about the Bermuda Islands, off the coasts of Surinam, Berbice and Demarara, to windward of the island of Barbadoes, St. Vincent, Martinico, off St. Christopher's, St. Eustatia, Porto Rico, and Santa Cruz, and destroying the Pictou of sixteen guns, a merchant ship of ten guns, the brig Catharine, and schooner Phænix, he chased several British ships of war, and the frigate La Pique in the Mona passage, without being able to overtake any of them, in consequence of the worn out state of the sails of the Constitution. Capt. Stewart determined to return to Boston, and replace them, for the old sails had served throughout the periods of Captain Hull's and Captain Bainbridge's former cruises. In April, the Consti-tution arrived at Marblehead, in Massachusetts bay, having with great difficulty escaped from the British frigates, the Junon, and La

Nymphe, of fifty guns each.
In December, the Constitution proceeded on another cruise, under the command of Captain Stewart, having been refitted with great care, and furnished with new sails. On the twenty-fourth, he captured and destroyed, to the eastward of the Bermudas, the brig Lord Nelson; off Lisbon he captured the ship Susan, with a valuable cargo, and sent her to New York, and on the twentieth of February, 1815, after a sharp conflict of forty minutes, he captured the British ships of war, the Cyane, of thirty-four guns, and the Levant, of twenty-one guns, having three men killed and thirteen wounded, the British ships having in all thirty-five killed, and forty-two wounded.

The following is the official report of the

United States Frigate Constitution, At Sea, 22d February, 1815.

SIR :- On the twentieth of February last, the Island of Madeira bearing W.S. W., distant about sixty leagues, we fell in with his Britannic Majesty's two ships of war, the Cyane and Levant, and brought them to action about 6 o'clock in the evening, both of which, after a spirited engagement of forty minutes, surrendered to the ship under my

Considering the advantages derived by the enemy having a divided and more active force, as also the superiority in the weight and number of their guns, we deem the speedy and decisive result of this action, the strongest assurance which can be given to the Government, that all under my command did their duty, and gallantly supported the reputation of

American seamen.

Enclosed you will receive the minutes of the action, and a list of the killed and wounded on board this ship-also, enclosed you will receive for your information, a statement of the actual force of the enemy, and the number killed and wounded on board their ships as near as could be ascertained. I have the honor to be, sir, very respect

fully, Your obedient servant, Signed, CHARLES STEWART.
To Hon. Secretary of the Navy, Washing-

(To be continued.)

Passages from "PRETENSION," a new novel by Miss Sarah Stickney, author of the

Falsehood -There are many sins, even of commission, which elude our own detection, from the indefinite or plausible aspect they assume. But a direct falsehood admits of no palliation. It stamps the page of conscience with a stain no human hand can wine away it stands in daring opposition to the nature and will of God; and as it rises to the vault of heaven, seems to echo back the thunders of the rebel army, who, even there, defied the majesty of eternal truth.

Self Delusion .- Pleased with the kind of adulation, perhaps the most dangerous of all to the unregenerate heart, Rosa took up the subject of religion, as she believed, quite seriously; and she who had been accustomed so quickly to detect, and so thoroughly to despise, pretension in others, became herself pretender; when false assumption is the least pardonable-when self delusion is the most fatal in its consequences.

The Christian Character .- She saw that a truly dignified and even elegant woman, may deliver out tracts; that subscriptions for religious purposes may be collected without bustle or bombast; and that so far from the graces of the mind and person being cast aside, in the eager pursuit of moral and religious good, they are capable of being enhanced in every charm, by the higher graces of the Christian character.

Loss of a Friend.—There is a bitterness in the feelings with which we regard the voluntary desertion of a once true friend, that has scarcely its equal in all the unpalatable draughts of which we have to drink before the cup of life is fully drained. What are the ninety and nine warm hearts still left to beat for us and ours, if with all we possess, and enjoy, and yearn to impart, we can not win back the hundredth. It is not that the value of that particular gem was worth the whole of our wreath, but its irreparable loss has broken the circle, and the glory of the

Prejudice of Society.-Those who would ombat the long established prejudices of society have to perform a difficult and ungrate-ful task. Ridicule is perhaps the only return that will be made to the novel assertion, that Point, where she lay aground the rest of the even culinary operations may be cheerfully conducted by a woman of polished manners river craft and lighten his vessel. In case the and cultivated understanding; that while shareing such occupations with her children, by means of a breeze, had reached his posi- she may converse on literary and intellectual topics; and that even the fine arts may suclation ; the night flood, however, made ; when | ceed in their turn to fill up the leisure hours

## CONGRESSIONAL

IN SENATE.

SATURDAY, Jan. 6 MR. CALHOUN'S RESOLUTIONS.

MR. CALHOUN'S RESOLUTIONS.

The resolutions of Mr. Calhoun, on the relations, &c., of the State and General Governments coming up, and the question being on Mr. Morris's amendment to the third resolution, declaring the freedom of speech and the press on all subjects indisputable, and under the supervision only of the State in which such freedom is exercised—

Mr. Morris resumed his remarks by saying that the error which he had committed the day before in relation to the sentiments of the Methodist Conference, had afforded so much pleasure, that he did not regret having fallen into it. He made a brief explanation, which was believed to relate to this mistake, (but inaudible and unintelligible to the reporter.)

take, (but isaudible and unintelligible to the reporter.)

What, he asked, was the object of the resolutions under consideration? It was to restrain and check the liberty of speech and of the press, and their first and principal domination was now felt in the Senate. But, he repeated, that the attempt to stiffe the liberty of speech and the press in this country, on moral and political subjects, would be a vain effort. But if it was sinful to discuss the question of slavery, or other subjects relating to other communities, he asked why they did not attempt to suppress discussion by an enactment. If it really threatened a dissolution, it deserved the severest measures that the Senate could adopt against it. Why then not put it down by law at once? Let us see the features of such a law, and then form our judgment respecting it. Would the people submit to it? Would any man dare to make the attempt? There was no government in the world that would dare to do it openly and generally.

man dare to make the attempt? There was no government in the world that would dare to do no government in the world that would dare to do no government in the world that would dare to do no government in the world that would dare to do no government in the world that would dare to do no government in the world that one effect of these resolutions was to extend slavery. Mr. M. responded to that sentiment; and this was one object, if there was any object at all. But if the Constitution of the United States was held to guaranty the property in slaves, then that Constitution was, on this point, above the law and Constitution of any State, and the act of no State, therefore could annul the property in slaves.—["State, under the laws thereof."] Mr. M. had used this argument before, and it would follow from it that the States were all slaveholding States under the Constitution, and must continue so, beyond the power of this government, unless the States generally should give that power.

The Constitution, therefore, Mr. M. maintained, had left slavery precisely where it found it. But the framers of the Constitution had intended that the moral power of this instrument should abolish slavery in all the States, and accordingly the States began immediately to abolish slavery on its adoption. The ordinance of 1787, in relation to the Northwestern territory, was adopted by Congress at the very time when the framers of the Constitution was adopted two or three months after that ordinance. Now, could any one believe, while Congress, in the very face of the Convention, determined that slavery should not exist in that vast territory, that they did not intend that the moral power of the Constitution should abolish slavery in the whole country!

Mr. M. went on to argue that, by the Constitution, Congress has the power to abolish slavery in the whole Union. More than twenty thousand citizens of Ohio were the friends of emancipation; and he thought, when these petitions came up here, they did not deserve the treatment they received

not deserve the treatment they received of being called incendiaries, and being branded with infamy.

Mr. M. concluded by explaining the object of his amendment, which was, he said, to enlarge more fully that which had been offered by his colleague,

Mr. Allen.)

Mr. Preston said he could see no shade of differ-Mr. Hubbard called upon Mr. Morris to point out

Mr. Hubbard called upon Mr. Morris to point out the difference.

Mr. Morris, said, if the eagle eye of the member from New Hampshire could not discern between the two, it would be a hopeless task for him to enlighten him. But, he would ask, if Mr. Hubbard could see no difference, why was he so much opposed to his, while he was in favor of the other?

Mr. Calhoun suggested to Mr. Allen to withdraw his amendment for the present, as only tending to embarrass the general question, and to consent to introduce it at the end of the resolutions.

Mr. Allen assented; but, as the amendment could not now be withdrawn but by unanimous consent, it was agreed that a vote of rejection should be taken on it, pro forma, that it might be offered by the mover hereafter, when all the resolutions should have been acted on. The vote being accordingly taken, the amendment was negatived.

the amendment was negatived.

Mr. Davis then urged the propriety of Mr. Smith's amendment being now taken up. It appeared to him the object of Mr. Allen's amendment had been to get rid of the other, and now that it was withdrawn, he thought the question ought to be taken on the amendment first offered by Mr. Smith of Indiana.

The question, however, being announced from the Chair to be now on the third resolution—
Mr. Prentiss rose, and said that, as the resolution
under consideration had been considerably modified, and rendered somewhat p ausible by amendments, he wished to say a word or two before the question was taken upon it, in explanation of the vote he should give. He had cared very little about any of the amendments which had been offered, and should feel quite indifferent as to the fate of any amendments which might hereafter be proposed, because it ments which might hereafter be proposed, because it was his intention to vote against all the resolutions, without any critical examination into the truth or correctness of any of the propositions contained in them. He should do this not only for the reason which had been frequently stated, that the vice of which had been frequently stated, that the vice of rallification was apparent upon the face of the resolutions, but for another reason also. It was obvious that they could neither add to nor abridge any of the constitutional rights of the people, by any resolutions they could adopt; and he deemed it not only unnecessary and useless, but highly inexpedient, to make a formal declaration of rights there, to assert abstract principles, in the form of resolutions, have ing no view to any practical results, and which might not only be liable to misconstruction and mis-application, but might occasion thereafter as much controversy as to their meaning as did the famous Virginia resolutions of '98. He did not wish to go into the subject at all, but merely to say that he should yote against all the resolutions, because he considervote against all the resolutions, because he consider-ed most of them wrong in principle, and all of them

ed most of them wrong in principle, and all of them unnecessary and inexpedient.

Mr. Davis next rose. He said that he had several times briefly addressed the Senate upon this subject, which for two years or more had been greatly agitated, more so, probably, than was useful. As long ago as that, an effort was first made to suppress petitions upon the subject of abolition in this body, and from thence till now the matter had received

and from thence till now the matter had received much attention at times, though both here and in the other House much regret had been expressed that it was agitated at all.

At the first session of the last Congress, after a long, animated, denunciatory debate, carried on chiefly by the members from the South, the Senate arrived at certain results in regard to abolition petitions, in which he (Mr. D.) did not concur, but a very great majority did. It was proper to recur to the state of things then, and to call to mind the senti-ments of that day. The leading argument in that debate was, that the agitation of the question was a debate was, that the agitation of the question was a source of great danger, pregnant with ruinous consequences to the country, causing serious obstruction to the action of Congress, and great uneasiness out of doors. And it was most urgently insisted that it was one of those delicate topics which it was not safe to discuss, which, in truth, we had no right to discuss, either as regarded the States interested, or the District of Columbia, or the Territories.

District of Columbia, or the Territories.
Such, sir, being the avowed sentiments of a majority of the Senate, they proceeded to give to them sanction and practical effect; and they did suppress debate, and close the doors against petitions; for, though they resolved to receive them, yet they immediately afterwards adopted the practice which has ever since been in force, as the journal will prove.
A Senator, for example, offers a petition; another A Senator, for example, offers a petition; another objects to the reception; the one holding the petition then moves for its reception; the other immediately moves to lay this motion on the table, which motion is not debuteable, but is earried by a large majority. The consequence is, that the one presenting the petition is denied the right to lay it before the Senate, as the Senate refused to receive it. The Senate, from South Carolina (Mr. Calboun) was in the lead of these measures, and is it not true that he was sus-tained by an overwhelming majority?

Mr. Calhoun said the course which he marked out

Mr. Davis. I did not mean to say that the detail Mr. Davis. I did not mean to say that the detail of the Senator's proposals was adopted, but that the Senate sustained the chief purpose he aimed at.

Mr. Calhoun. I was in the minority in every vote on this subject. I wished to meet the petitions, and to refuse the admission of them. I wished to take higher and stronger ground. I was not averse to agitation.

agitation.

Mr. Davis. I did not allege that the Senator was averse to agitation, but that it was generally deprecated; and that his proposed measures looked to that